

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 20-26, 29 and 30 were pending. The Office Action dated December 29, 2006 in this Application has been carefully considered. The above amendments and the following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance.

1. Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 25, 26, 29 and 30 and claims 1-24 have been canceled in order to expedite prosecution. Accordingly, claims 25, 26, 29, and 30 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. *No elements have been added which were not in the originally submitted claims. Consequently, this amendment does not raise new issues that would require a further search or substantial consideration by the Examiner.*

2. Examiner Objections - Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 3 and 20 because of informalities. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough review of the claims. In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled claims 2, 3 and 20 without prejudice. Therefore, the objection with respect to these claims is deemed to be moot.

3. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 26 and 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 26 recites the limitation “the supporting means” and was rejected for insufficient antecedent basis. Applicant has amended claim 26 to claim “wherein the

means for pivoting further comprises a supporting means”. The “means for pivoting” is claimed in claim 25, line 5.

Claim 30 recites the limitation “the first and second anchor engagement means” and was rejected for insufficient antecedent basis. Applicant has amended claim 30 to delete the limitation “first and second anchor engagement means.”

4. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7-9 and 20-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jammet (EP 1072228). In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, 7-9 and 20-24 without prejudice. Therefore, this rejection with respect to these claims is deemed to be moot.

5. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-9 and 20-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Landry, et al. (US Patent Application Publication 2004/0138662). In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled claims 1-9 and 20-21 without prejudice. Therefore, this rejection with respect to these claims is deemed to be moot.

6. Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claim 25. As noted above, claims 26 and 30 have been amended in order to overcome the Examiner’s objections. Consequently, the Applicant believes claims 26, 29 and 30 are also in a condition of allowance. The Examiner’s consideration of these claims is also respectfully requested. No amendments have been made to narrow the scope of the pending claims or to create any sort of estoppel.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 25, 26, 29, and 30.

Applicant does not believe that any fees are due; however, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0605 of CARR LLP.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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